GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:104
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2005
SAFETY OF WILD ANIMALS
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa;Pandey Dr. Laxminarayan

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Union Government has assessed the possibility of relocation of villages near the National Parks/Sanctuaries in order to save the endangered wild animals;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of National Parks/Sanctuaries surrounded by villages;

(c) the number of villages proposed to be evacuated, State-wise and the details of the plan formulated for rehabilitation of the villages;

(d) whether in the meeting held in Delhi recently, the State Chief Wardens and Field Directors of tiger reserves had demanded special financial package to meet the immediate need of the National Parks and Reserves;

(e) if so, the details thereof; and

(f) the reaction of the Government to these demands?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) (b) (c) (d) (e) and (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 104 FOR REPLY ON 1-8-2005 REGARDING SAFETY OF WILD ANIMALS.

(a) & (b) No, Sir. Under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, the States are authorized to delineate the boundaries during acquisition of rights vis-Ã -vis continuance of any right over any land within the limits of the National Park / Sanctuary. Information relating to villages located near Protected Areas is not collated at the Government of India level.

(c) Under the Centrally Sponsored umbrella Schemes "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" and "Project Tiger", central assistance is provided to States for village relocation from Protected Areas, based on the site specific proposals received from them. No comprehensive plan for rehabilitation of villages has been formulated by this Ministry.

(d) There was general demand from some States for a special package.

(e) & (f) A request has been made by Rajasthan Government for Central Assistance relating to a special package to Ranthambore and Sariska Tiger Reserve. The State Government has been requested to submit the detailed proposals.